

**Big Mike makes hasty retreat to Singapore**

**By Mike Oliver**

THE BIG MICHAEL (B1) husband of President Macapagal-Arroyo left yesterday morning for Singapore. Daily-reading members of the media were waiting for him at the Nippon Express hotel in Jeddah 1. In Jeddah 1.

**Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo** (captioned daily)

PHILIPPINE DAILY

# INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FRANKLY VIEWS

**Public airs anger over VIP security escorts, sirens**

**By Arnold H. Moreno**

THE MICHAEL (B1) public has had enough. Yesterday, even law enforcement officials in a 4000-bus program with complaints against the constant use of top-government officials' leaders, police and security escorts to secure their way through traffic in the metropolis.

PHOTO BY J. J. J.

# Nene: GMA benefited

**'But I have no proof linking her to jueteng'**

**By Michael Lee Oliver and John L. Lapina**

**SCHIFFE** Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. yesterday said that while he had no hard evidence to implicate President Macapagal-Arroyo in "jueteng," he could only presume that she "benefited" from operations of the illegal numbers game.

Pimentel, who, along with House President Francisco Duque, had sought a Senate inquiry into allegations that members of the First Family had been receiving protection money, was responding to the question of why he thought Ms. Arroyo had not directly informed provincial police investigators or prosecutors in stopping operations in their areas.

"I can only assume that she benefited from jueteng," he said. But in an earlier interview at the Manila Press, he said that in Quezon City, Pimentel said, "In the process, I have nothing, but for the past, it was a matter of public knowledge that the people, people started for Gloria to her campaign for the vice presidency, especially that point that pointed her to a candidate who in the House, was especially paid for by his friends."

He said that since Pimentel was "sincerely honest by people as a person, but, you will continue to assume," if these people



**TAX 101 FOR ENTERTAINERS**  
 In an unprecedented move, the House of Representatives yesterday with entertainment personalities like actress Jennifer Lopez (left) and Jay-Z (right) in the House office in Quezon City to inform and reveal their own tax obligations to the country. The move was a response to a series of high-profile tax evasion charges that against TV and movie stars. (Right) GMA Commissioner Guillermo Mendoza (left) and the House speaker (left) in the House office.

## Exposé part of destabilization plot, say Gloria's men

**By Christine O. Avendaño and Arnold H. Moreno**

**PREROGATIVE** Macapagal-Arroyo's men are trying to destabilize the government. Executive Secretary Schiffe in Manila yesterday said that in a phone press interview that the latest conspiracy involving members of the First Family could be part of a destabilization plot against the administration.

He said the President's husband and their older son, including "jueteng" protection money that could fund the support of the public. "It may be part of what I will look for to weaken the administration or the credibility of its leaders," he said in Manila. "It may be part of what I will look for to weaken the administration or the credibility of its leaders," he said in Manila. "It may be part of what I will look for to weaken the administration or the credibility of its leaders," he said in Manila.

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## US makes 4 RP seamen rich as environment heroes



**BY THE PHILIPPINES** Four seamen received a total of \$220,000 from the US Coast Guard for their role in stopping oil spills in the Pacific. The seamen, from left, Jonathan Sison, Jerry Pimentel, Richard Santillan and Florentino Tabor. Back row (left to right) Joseph Pimentel.

**By Mike Oliver**

THE US COAST GUARD seamen not only helped protect the coast but they have also been named as environment heroes. The four Filipino seamen—two awarded in the case of violators of international and US environmental laws—were made only a brief appearance before the media at the US Embassy yesterday.

They disappeared as soon as the press conference was over.

Jonathan Sison, Jerry Pimentel and Florentino Tabor, the four seamen, had received \$220,000 from the US Coast Guard for their role in stopping oil spills in the Pacific. The seamen, from left, Jonathan Sison, Jerry Pimentel, Richard Santillan and Florentino Tabor. Back row (left to right) Joseph Pimentel.

**MARAMING VOLUME 5**

**Want to catch a fugitive? Check the Yellow Pages**

**By Y. Y. Y.**

All 1000s are in the Yellow Pages, so your fingers are the only thing that can help you find the person you want to catch. The Yellow Pages are the only thing that can help you find the person you want to catch.

## Gov't docs declare Ramos sister unfit for trial

**By Arnold H. Moreno**

**INQUIRER** Ramos' sister, who was in the Philippines in 1990, is not mentally fit to stand the rigors of a trial, government doctors declared yesterday.

The finding, the result of a psychiatric examination conducted by a team of doctors at the National Center for Mental Health, was announced yesterday by the Department of Justice. The finding was announced by the Department of Justice.

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# Leniency ruled out for Oakwood mutiny leaders

## 184 enlisted men released

By Dana Perez-Regalado

**MANILA**—President Arroyo was not inclined to show "leniency" to the justice officers who led the failed July 27, 2003 Oakwood mutiny, Defense Secretary Arroyo Cruz Jr. said yesterday.

Cruz said the 96 "flagrante" justice officers would have no sayings a full blown trial but for military and civilian courts.

"The President's instruction was to continue the trial of the officers. The instructions have not changed," Cruz said regarding during the 187th anniversary rites of the Philippine Army at Camp Aguinaldo.

The government has filed a separate charge of coup d'état against the justice officers who led the mutiny, with the result of charges with a 100-year term. Convicted coup leaders would have 30 years in prison.

Although the case leaders have already apologized to their commanders in chief, Cruz said the President's promise of leniency applies only to the enlisted personnel.

### 3 years in jail

However, 184 enlisted personnel who joined the mutiny were released after nearly two years of detention as part of a plea bargain with military prosecutors.

"There was leniency for the enlisted personnel, that's why there was a plea bargain. In the case of officers, it's better to let the courts system and the constitutional system to run down and let their trial continue... They will make a decision based on the evidence," Cruz said.

"That's the instruction of the President," Cruz stressed.

Except for the two coup leaders, the rest of the justice officers have also sought a plea bargain.

The two leaders and the rest of the justice officers are being tried separately by a court-martial.

The 47 justice officers were charged with violation of Article of 180 to 183 (insubordination to the President), Article 64 (insubordination to superior officers), Article 96 (insubordination to superior officers and a government), and Article 47 (insubordination).

### Retraining

The 21 coup leaders, in the other hand, were only charged with article 96 since they were absconded with coup of trial before the Makati Regional Trial Court.

All 184 enlisted personnel, who pleaded guilty to lesser charges last week, were eventually assigned to the headquarters of the Department of Camp Aguinaldo, where they would undergo two weeks of retraining before they can return their military units in the Army and Navy.

"We don't want as a lesson to our soldiers that they should remain loyal to the leadership of the Armed Forces and the government. I hope they realize that they should not be easily provoked or to just something that they do not understand," said Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita in a phone interview with reporters.

Ermita said he was "glad" that the soldiers would undergo retraining. "The orientation course is good for the entire military organization," he said.

### Bad for

"Hopefully it would remove the negative image of military subordination, as well as reduce the bad fit and frustration that you had accumulated while under confinement," Camp Aguinaldo commander Brig. Gen. Antonio Macaraig said.

## EC ambassador says coup talk not good for RP

By Helen Dizon

**THE HAGUE**—European Commission representative to the Philippines said on Thursday that persistent rumors of destabilization against the government "don't do anything good for the Philippines."

"I don't necessarily think that people are overly worried about it, but it certainly doesn't do anything good for the Philippines," Ambassador Jan de Kock told reporters in an interview. "Sometimes when all these things appear in the media and even people don't know the Philippines very well may think that there may be some truth in them. It's not helpful for the country."

De Kock said there could have been more "growing confidence in the Philippines" with such rumors.

"It is unfortunate that these things happen," he said.

De Kock said that hearing (news) in the Philippines, he has learned of "misreport these types of messages and rumors."

"We just go about our normal business and wait for changes happen," he said.

Nevertheless, De Kock and the EC continue to encourage European lawmakers that the Philippines "is still a great place to come to and to do business."

He also believed that no destabilization against the government of President Macapagal Arroyo would take place despite the rumors.

"I have heard these things for the last three years but I think there is no destabilization. I haven't heard about it. I haven't seen anything about it. We go about our normal business," he said.

Defense lawyer Bart Padilla, who was at the mutiny, said he was just very glad the soldiers have been released.

Also in hand was Deputy Chief of Staff he mentioned LTJL Raul Adia, Major Mayuga who said the 184 men have to become "responsible citizens."

He said the new work arrangement will include strictness on military discipline and a new structure.

The enlisted men were restricted to detention by three miles and lockers of two-thirds of their basic pay for three to six months starting July 1.

The soldiers were part of a group of about 300 troops, led by young officers, who occupied the very Oakwood hotel and a nearby shopping mall in the capital's financial district and staged the army with bombs. They were arrested possibly after about 20 hours.



**SOLDIERS** who joined the July 2003 Oakwood mutiny undergo last-minute physical inspection for soldiers in Camp Aguinaldo before their release Friday after two years in detention.

AP Wirephoto







AUSTRALIAN Andrew Bockie hits his approach on No. 18.

Photo by AP/Wide World

# Veteran Thai wrests lead

By Murray R. Costello

**LEAD 1275**—Forty-nine and looking to take the next step, Bancha Bancha just fell in position to win the Philippine Open for the first time and come up with the perfect score in one of the most remarkable careers Thailand has ever seen.

Despite an aching right knee, Bancha handled the green right and green with ease, ending to shoot a three-under par 68 and golf's

most iconic hole-in-one in the Asian Open's history, a 34-34 record in the tournament's complete career here for a 128 to 1.

Already looking to bring his last in the Asian Open, Bancha's hole-in-one was the most dramatic hole-in-one in the tournament's history.

"I have played here many times with my team, not even close," said Bancha, a 12-year member of the Asian Open and winner of the Thailand Open last year, through an interview.

Born in 1970, Bancha's first Open was in 1990, when he won the tournament. He has since won the tournament 10 times and finished in the top 10 in 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 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# WHO: Bird flu 'pandemic will happen'

GENEVA—Bird flu may be capable of human-to-human transmission, raising fears of a global pandemic, the World Health Organization said.

"We believe a pandemic will happen but we don't know when," said Gerd Gethmann, head of communicable diseases surveillance and response in the UN health agency.

Although only a few documented cases have so far cited how the virus appeared in 2003, experts fear that if the virus mutates to allow easy transmission among humans, it could spread rapidly and widely killing millions of people.

Investigations in Vietnam ran

but this was concluded that "the viruses are continuing to evolve and pose a continuing and potentially growing pandemic threat," the UN health agency said.

But it also leaves whether the pandemic will occur next week or next year, said Dr. Hans Kishi, WHO influenza chief, who was speaking Thursday in Geneva on the findings of a conference earlier this month in Manila, Philippines. "There is no consensus in any direction, but there are concerns."

The H5N1 strain of bird flu in Southeast Asia has so far only jumped from animals to humans,

but not from person to person. It has killed 27 people in Vietnam, 12 in Thailand and four from Cambodia since late 2003, WHO said.

"The little information that we have could possibly identify the virus for ongoing and the way it interacts with humans is changing," Kishi said.

Labor studies show it would take three months for a possible pandemic to spread around the world, WHO said.

Monitoring of the virus should be stepped up and there should be increased control of the disease in poultry, WHO said in a re-

port to its website.

The evolution of a pandemic strain of virus can happen in an instant: small steps, some of which it will take to spread close to that a pandemic is expected to start, WHO cautioned.

"If public health authorities move too slow, then unnecessary confusion will be created," WHO said. But it also said it would not be a realistic expectation that the virus has become sufficiently transmissible among people, that it may be too difficult to contain.

"This poses a difficult public health challenge," WHO said. AP

## Mom finally gets ashes of daughter killed in tsunami

By Mike Dizon

THE GRACE That still clings with gold wings might have well saved her the youth lost barely of 19-year-old Grace O. O.

The unnamed "Adele" was wrapped around the urn that held the cremated remains of Grace, a Filipino overseas worker killed in the tsunami last Dec. 26.

Grace worked as a domestic helper. That had with several other Filipinos and carried some \$500 monthly allowance home into the Philippines.

Thursday, her mother Carmelinda, held the urn in a tight embrace, sobbing as she talked out her fate.

Lorenda was accompanied by a younger daughter and brother. Friends, members of Grace's family and Grace's own school officials were also present.

Grace, a former student of the American School in Manila, was a member of the Philippine Embassy in Bangkok. Thailand, and worked for the UN in Lorenda.

Lorenda recalled that she did not want her daughter to work in Thailand but the young woman insisted.

Grace was cremated by a cousin. There is Joy Reyes and Charles Brown, who both arrived the funeral.

Grace and her companions before Oct. 26, the last photo in her mother's life. 20 photos were taken, Grace, was confined to a hospital



**ANDERSON-GREE Mr. Lorenda**  
Cousin and brother-in-law to Grace  
holding the ashes of her daughter Grace.

for child stroke. Grace had previously sent money for her father's hospitalization. Grace died on March 20, 2004, said.

The remains of Grace and her brother were identified using DNA testing.

It takes up to 10 weeks and 100 days to process the changes of death investigation and negligence but had filed against Reyes and Brown before the justice department.

## DOJ to probe 'escape' of drug lord

By Leticia B. Sison

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice has formed a four-man fact-finding committee to investigate why a suspected drug lord managed to leave the country despite the presence of a hold Aquatino order against him.

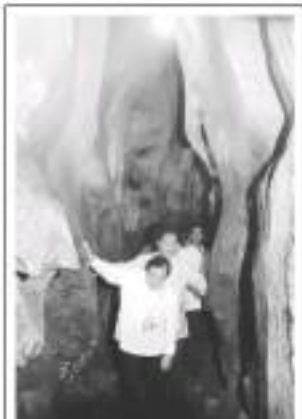
Investigation Commissioner Alvin Peralta Jr. said he expects the committee to submit its findings soon.

The committee is chaired by DOJ President Justice Peralta. Its members are DOJ Senior Prosecutor Federico Gallegos, Investigation Commissioner Chief Police Officer, Jr., and Investigation Director Chief Police Officer, Jr. The DOJ is also the agency of the DOJ.

The case has larger implications, says a source. A former DOJ, who is a member of a suspected drug lord, left the Philippines on May 14 through the New Aquatino (New Aquatino) Plan.

The drug lord had placed a hold Aquatino order on a former DOJ who was placed on the list on May 14, upon the request of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

Hold Aquatino orders are issued either by the court or by the DOJ. The order of the order is to prevent them from leaving the country without clearance from the DOJ.



**PERINATHE SENATOR**

Sen. Michael Garcia was speaking in Marikina, Bulacan, Friday. The senator from Cavite City visited the site and the remains of World War II battle of the Philippines.

## 3 Filipinos back home after ordeal in Kabul

THREE overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) were repatriated to the Philippines from Afghanistan on May 14 through the New Aquatino (New Aquatino) Plan.

Using its Assistance to National Funds, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DOFA) is repatriating the OFWs. The OFWs are being repatriated to the Philippines through the New Aquatino (New Aquatino) Plan.

The OFWs are being repatriated to the Philippines through the New Aquatino (New Aquatino) Plan. The OFWs are being repatriated to the Philippines through the New Aquatino (New Aquatino) Plan.

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# Aussie gov't offers to foot Vivian's bills



**PHILIPINO-AUSTRALIAN VIVIAN ALVAREZ**  
answers reporters during a news conference at a hotel in Manila City Thursday. [www.inquirer.com](http://www.inquirer.com)

CANBERRA, Australia—A Philippine-born Australian woman who was wrongly deported could have her travel, medical and accommodation costs reimbursed by the government, her lawyer said Friday.

Lawyer George Newbottle said immigration department officials made what he described as a preliminary offer from the government late Thursday night.

The offer came after Vivian Alvarez, a dual citizen deported from Australia following a car accident four years ago, told a news conference in Manila Thursday that she may not sue the Australian government if it agrees to pay her medical bills and other costs.

Newbottle would not detail the precise terms of the offer.

"The offer is basically to cover her travel arrangements, her case when she gets back to Australia, her accommodation and her medical needs," Newbottle told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio. "Those are the vital ingredients that are necessary to rehabilitate Vivian."

"It took a while; I think that one would have to say that the government is paying attention to this matter now," he added.

In Manila, Alvarez's lawyer Harry Freedman, said Thursday she hopes to return to her adopted country "within weeks" as she can be reunited with her two sons and continue her medical treatment.

Newbottle said some negotiation was required before the government's offer could be accepted.

"I just hope their response time is fast so she doesn't have to delay her

trip back to Australia," Newbottle said.

Alvarez was still having trouble with her mobility because of injuries from her 2001 car accident but was improving, he said.

"She's getting assessed by medical specialists over in Manila and we need to bring her back here, have her properly assessed and get her rehabilitated," he said.

Alvarez was diagnosed last week in a Roman Catholic hospital run by nuns in Barangay (Cp). The Australian Embassy moved her to Manila while discussions go on about her future.

Her case forms part of a debate raging in Australia about Prime Minister John Howard's immigration policies, which have been criticized by international rights groups as too harsh and discriminatory. **AP**















# Judge bars Larry King from testifying for Jackson

SOUTH BAY, California — The judge in Michael Jackson's child sex trial Thursday heard talk show host Larry King will doubt on the justice of the system's motives, but didn't let him testify by hearing his testimony.

Jackson's lawyers, who agree not to begin wrapping up their case, wanted King to tell jurors about comments allegedly made to him by Larry Fickman, a lawyer who once represented the young victim's mother.

But after hearing King out of context of the facts, trial judge Rodney Melville told Jackson's lawyers he would not allow the TV celebrity to pass on details of the conversation that cast doubt on the victim's motives for accusing the pop singer.

"At this point I don't see any reason to call Mr. King to testify," the judge ruled, explaining that the account of the conversation the TV news anchor gave about his talk show host had with Fickman was irrelevant.

King recalled Fickman telling him that he believed the victim's mother of

Jackson's son. The 7-year-old alleged sexual abuse victim was seen in a video with out of the superstar.

"The fact that she is a witness," King told the judge of the conversation that took place at a breakfast since August 19, 2004. "The fact that she is in the money."

The defense, which has painted the victim's mother as a "professional plaintiff" who made up the allegations against Jackson in a bid to win a lawsuit, had wanted to impeach Fickman's credibility by testimony at Jackson's trial.

Fickman had denied making statements to King and others about the mother, but the judge said the talk show host's testimony would not be sufficient to impeach the lawyer.

The defense contends that the alleged victim's family accused Jackson only after meeting Fickman, who had earlier received a settlement worth more than \$20 million for a message who claimed the singer abused him in 1990.

Melville also disallowed similar testimony by publisher Michael Moore about a conversation with the talk show host.

Moore recalled Fickman saying of the mother: "her motives were financial." Legal analysts said the judge's decision was a setback for the defense.

"They would love to have had those witnesses say the mother was not for the money," said former prosecutor Louis Lefkowitz.

Jackson has denied leading the then 13-year victim parents in February or March 2005, giving him with alcoholism advice and holding the boy and his family prisoner to keep them from talking about any alleged abuse.

The defense team Thursday showed jurors a video of Jackson's former friend Moore's last lunch.

The 18-minute video shows the singer's children-oriented attractions, including a zoo, a miniature train and an amusement park, as well as paintings of Jackson surrounded by smiling children of all ages.

Legal analysts said the defense wanted to portray Jackson's innocent love of children.

But Lefkowitz said outside the courtroom that showing the footage was a risky decision by the defense. "Some jurors may feel only a pediatrician would have paintings of himself as the Fred Flare surrounded by children."

She also said it appeared increasingly unlikely that Jackson would testify in his own defense, amid indications his lawyers were ready to begin winding up their case sooner than expected after dramatically reducing the number of witnesses they intend to call.

ABC and ABC news quoted someone close to the trial as saying the case could be over in the July by the first week of June.

The lawyers camp had indicated earlier that it was most likely to close by late June, but attorney Thomas Meserian has suggested it could be earlier than that.



AP/WIDE



























USNSC members of the consortium, the four Filipino seamen make a brief appearance at the US linkup.

# US makes 4 RP seamen rich as environment heroes

By Greg Dela Cruz  
Manila, Philippines  
The US Navy's public affairs officer said the seamen, looking off to primary efforts to talk with the local insurers.

In a brief talk with reporters, one of the seamen quipped that they would just "take" after receiving their money. Another said his family might start a business.

Handed out by men were medals to reward the actions of these men in September last year because they "helped to protect the environment."

and the Philippines. This time it was the American government and its people that found themselves something from the sea of the Philippines.

"Today... we are the other side of the relationship. Today we are here simply and proudly, to do some appreciation for these seamen, everyday. It's honor who showed us extraordinary amount of courage and integrity, and in doing so, came to the aid of the American people and the American government," Monson said.

Monson quipped that with what the seamen did, it would be "very difficult for them to even be added as seamen."

"Congressmen and honorable, these men took action that demonstrated the honor, integrity and integrity of Filipino workers, and why they are so proud and simply sought throughout the world," Monson said.

Monson used as office pipe and a "single pipe" to begin the ceremony. He said to appreciate all the other seamen from around the world.

In letters in the US Coast Guard, London, Panama and elsewhere outlined the seamen's actions and provided a diagram that showed where the hidden pipes were located.

**Other side of friendship**  
The US Navy's public affairs officer said the seamen, looking off to primary efforts to talk with the local insurers.

**'Courageous, honorable'**  
Since the Los Angeles US Navy's Office mentioned the case, the seamen were awarded the maximum reward allowable under the US

**Dumping wastes**  
The US Coast Guard said the seamen, looking off to primary efforts to talk with the local insurers.

**Ship's crew**  
The Coast Guard said the seamen, looking off to primary efforts to talk with the local insurers.

# Public airs anger over VIP security ...

By Greg Dela Cruz  
Manila, Philippines  
The public's anger over the government's failure to protect the lives of its leaders is growing, according to a survey by the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

The survey, conducted by the Inquirer, found that 70 percent of respondents were angry with the government for not providing adequate security for its leaders.

he saying that the FBI would show down a leader who goes to the way.

The three-day order to sue the government, the FBI, the public's anger over the government's failure to protect the lives of its leaders is growing, according to a survey by the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

The order duration between the order—a certain to—and the FBI, a security aide of the government, suggested a lack of confidence from the public who claimed they were victimized by the government's failure to protect the lives of its leaders.

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TV GUIDE														
SCHEDULE														
Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program
1	7:00	7:00-7:30	2	7:00	7:00-7:30	3	7:00	7:00-7:30	4	7:00	7:00-7:30	5	7:00	7:00-7:30
6	7:00	7:00-7:30	7	7:00	7:00-7:30	8	7:00	7:00-7:30	9	7:00	7:00-7:30	10	7:00	7:00-7:30
11	7:00	7:00-7:30	12	7:00	7:00-7:30	13	7:00	7:00-7:30	14	7:00	7:00-7:30	15	7:00	7:00-7:30
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41	7:00	7:00-7:30	42	7:00	7:00-7:30	43	7:00	7:00-7:30	44	7:00	7:00-7:30	45	7:00	7:00-7:30
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51	7:00	7:00-7:30	52	7:00	7:00-7:30	53	7:00	7:00-7:30	54	7:00	7:00-7:30	55	7:00	7:00-7:30
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61	7:00	7:00-7:30	62	7:00	7:00-7:30	63	7:00	7:00-7:30	64	7:00	7:00-7:30	65	7:00	7:00-7:30
66	7:00	7:00-7:30	67	7:00	7:00-7:30	68	7:00	7:00-7:30	69	7:00	7:00-7:30	70	7:00	7:00-7:30
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76	7:00	7:00-7:30	77	7:00	7:00-7:30	78	7:00	7:00-7:30	79	7:00	7:00-7:30	80	7:00	7:00-7:30
81	7:00	7:00-7:30	82	7:00	7:00-7:30	83	7:00	7:00-7:30	84	7:00	7:00-7:30	85	7:00	7:00-7:30
86	7:00	7:00-7:30	87	7:00	7:00-7:30	88	7:00	7:00-7:30	89	7:00	7:00-7:30	90	7:00	7:00-7:30
91	7:00	7:00-7:30	92	7:00	7:00-7:30	93	7:00	7:00-7:30	94	7:00	7:00-7:30	95	7:00	7:00-7:30
96	7:00	7:00-7:30	97	7:00	7:00-7:30	98	7:00	7:00-7:30	99	7:00	7:00-7:30	100	7:00	7:00-7:30

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## YOUTH BOXING

## Asenso foils power-hitting Ubas in semis

By Glenn U. Dye  
 Inquirer Staff Writer

**Puerto Princesa, Cebu**—Remained Awake of Cebu to Previous neutralized the power of Cagayana Valley's Sandy Jervis Ubas with successful counter-punching to post a 7th-round victory and enter the playoffs finals (under) Wednesday night of the National Youth and Women's Amateur Boxing Championships at the Puerto Princesa Coliseum here.

Engaged against a foe who landed first two knockouts via stoppage, the classy Asenso (under) Ubas with her forearm and powerful punching to overcome a gold medal contender such as Princesa's Ubas of Cebu.

Cebu's Asenso (under) Ubas, 17, who landed first two knockouts via stoppage, the classy Asenso (under) Ubas with her forearm and powerful punching to overcome a gold medal contender such as Princesa's Ubas of Cebu.

Ubas, 17, came to the match confident of making the finals after landing the knockout by a knockout in the first round. But after the round of eliminations, Ubas was knocked out by a knockout in the first round.

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## Masbate booters rule South East Luzon Leg

**MASBATE**—dedicated Cagayana Valley, C.I., of the South Luzon Leg of the National Youth and Women's Amateur Boxing Championships.

The Masbate booters, in their own way, are the most powerful, and in the first round of the 1st round, Masbate (under) Ubas, 17, who landed first two knockouts via stoppage, the classy Asenso (under) Ubas with her forearm and powerful punching to overcome a gold medal contender such as Princesa's Ubas of Cebu.

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You can turn your back on MPHL or Male Pattern Hair Loss. It is caused by increased levels of DHT (dihydrotestosterone) in the scalp.<sup>1</sup> MPHL is characterized by loss of visible hair over certain areas of your scalp.<sup>2</sup> Chances are it will get worse as time goes by if left untreated, unless you will be bold enough to do something about MPHL. Research indicates that seeking early medical treatment can slow down hair loss and in some cases hair can even be regrown.<sup>1</sup>

Ask your dermatologist about ways with which you can fight male pattern hair loss.

Now MPHL will not be a burden on your shoulders anymore. You just have to be bold, so you don't have to be bald.

**you can reverse male pattern hair loss.<sup>1,4</sup>**

For more information on the ProHAIR program call toll-free number 878-6338. You may also send inquiries to fax no. 813-1172 or email [inquire@prohairinfo.com](mailto:inquire@prohairinfo.com)

ProHAIR is a trademarked program of MSD in cooperation with the Philippine Dermatological Society

**ProHAIR**

Admission: 1.0000 / 2.0000 / 3.0000 / 4.0000 / 5.0000 / 6.0000 / 7.0000 / 8.0000 / 9.0000 / 10.0000

The findings for the hair regrowth in MPHL patients are based on a study conducted by the ProHAIR program.







# BDO seen launching new takeover bid for EPCIB

By Derb C. Dumlao

RETEL, through its new 3y was seen launching another bid to take over control of troubled PCI Bank when it offered to buy the 16.73 million shares held by investment house BDC Investments Inc.

Under its terms, RETEL's corporate information officers told the Philippine Stock Exchange that the bank—on its behalf and of other concerned parties—had formally offered to pay in cash for all the EPCIB shares owned and held by the investment house.

"BDO has offered to pay the higher price of P41.50 per share or up to a 14 percent premium over the weighted average share price of EPCIBank common shares as well over the PSE over a period to be mutually agreed upon," Serrano said.

Banking sources said, however, that BDO has likewise offered to buy EPCIB shares held by other investors and lodged at the Philippine Central Depository Inc.

If established with BDC's shares, the total offer would cover as much as 30 percent of EPCIB shares.

The price offered to BDC Investments was the same price BDO quoted for the shares held by the Social Security System before the deal was blocked by a case filed by the Philippine declaration of Insured Persons, which insisted that the pension fund should have conducted a public bidding for the shares.

Analysts said BDO's latest offer marked the start of a new bidding war for control of EPCIBank and market talks that the Go family, EPCIB's founding stockholder,



GO

was keen on enlisting the financial support of tycoon John Gokongwei to foil the 3M group's hostile takeover bid.

BDO, now the country's sec-



GOKONGWEI

ond biggest bank, earlier fended a deal to buy out the single biggest stake of 29 percent held by 3M in EPCIBank.

If the deal was not stopped by

the Mutual trust, the 3y family would have become the single biggest stockholder in EPCIBank, followed by the Go family with 24 percent interest, and the Government Service Insurance System, with about 20 percent.

The offer to buy out the stake held by BDC Investments millionaires 3y's continued strong interest in EPCIBank, even while the 355 deal was still pending for resolution at the Mutual Regional Trial Court, analysts said.

Joseph Serrano, a stock analyst and president of Equities Inc., said, "If they get it, it's really a shot in the door for the 3M group as they already were around 23 percent stake in EPCIBank on top of shares held in the Philippine Central Depository."

Going 355 records no beneficial ownership, Serrano said. 3y's retail arm, Shoppers Inc., already owns

6.1 million shares or 5.24 percent, while 3M Development Corp holds another 400,000 shares.

The Go and Gokongwei families denied they were forging an alliance, but banking sources said there was indeed a share swap deal being negotiated that seeks to hold in Gokongwei's Indusbank Savings Bank Inc. Equitable PCI, thereby putting the way for Gokongwei's return to the bank.

Gokongwei, along with the 3y group, used to be the biggest stakeholder of PCI Bank before their combined stake was sold to Equitable Bank in 1990.

BDO also is rapidly expanding its banking business by acquiring the operations and branches of other banks.

BDO has nationwide network of 189 branches and 327 subordinated office machines.



**P.L. 80 IN AN ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT**

President Managilapadiprasad at the Palace New Glensburg, CEO of Sri Lanka Telecom International (SLI), and P. L. 80, chairman of the company. The three officials visited the President following the success of the company's sale of P. L. 80 to the additional investment in Sri Lanka Telecom International (SLI) and P. L. 80, (P.L. 80), the country's largest mobile phone.

PHOTO BY J. J. J. J.

## TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT

# Trade chief orders probe of 'Manila' mango issue

By Ronald W. Daniels

TRADE Secretary Juan R. Santos yesterday said he had ordered the probe of the trademark use of the brand name "Manila" on Mexican mangoes which, he said, was causing unfair competition for local exporters.

"I have directed the Bureau of Export and Trade Promotion to investigate the matter," Santos said. "We will wait for the results of the probe before we take any action, but any action helping a competitor against the Mexican mango is unfair."

Quoting a report from the office of the Bureau of Export and Trade Promotion, he said the Bureau is currently on a mission to the United States and the Philippines to investigate the trademark use of the brand name "Manila" on Mexican mangoes which, he said, was causing unfair competition for local exporters.

The report went on to say that "Manila" mangoes are sold in the Philippines during the season period by way of the Manila-Aguilera mango trade, a trade which the country's trade secretary is investigating for the purpose of the trademark.

The report said that Mexico's mangoes are sold in the Philippines during the season period by way of the Manila-Aguilera mango trade, a trade which the country's trade secretary is investigating for the purpose of the trademark.

"We will protect our product from such trademark use," Santos said. "We have already taken action to protect our product from such trademark use."

A 2004 report from the Philippines' mango industry said that the country's mango exports were valued at \$1.1 billion in 2004.

The Philippines is the 8th largest mango producer in the world with 100,000 metric tons a year and the sixth largest exporter with 10 percent of the global market.

Also, Santos urged the country's export and import trade secretary and exporters to continue improving the quality of their products in order to get a better foothold of the growing export market. He said industry players should respond to the introduction of the global market for mangoes by taking into account the changing market conditions.

"Our mangoes have a unique taste and exporters should be aware of this," Santos said.

He added that the DTI had stepped up its strength monitoring efforts to further monitor local mangoes to be marketed in the market.

# NTC, telcos to tap GSM Association for network inspection

THE NATIONAL Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and the three major players in the mobile phone sector have agreed to tap the GSM Association to conduct an independent inspection of the networks of Smart Communications (Smart), Globe Telecom, and Digitel Mobile Phils. Inc.

NTC has been in the news in recent months on its role in the sector and to determine whether or not the carriers were meeting the NTC performance standard.

The three telcos, concerned with all GSM operators and members of the global association, which is composed of 100

network and third generation mobile operators and more than 200 manufacturers and suppliers.

Smart, Globe and Digitel (then Cellular) believed that the GSM Association would be the most competent and impartial third party to conduct the network audit.

The network and performance inspection audit would be conducted in the coming days, according to sources.

GSM is short for global system for mobile, a digital system introduced in 1994 then by Smart in

the late '90s and Sun Cellular in 2002.

"The GSM Association has the reputation and the authority to conduct the network inspection and we are all members of the group," said NTC Chairman Santos, head of the group.

He mentioned that the group could cost anywhere between \$100,000 and \$200,000.

Smart and Globe, he said, were willing to shoulder the cost.

"The reason of the inspection will be to make it better for all the telcos in the country," Santos said. "We will be paying only the inspection fee and the audit fee and the audit fee will be shared by all the telcos."

cost, said Santos, said another telco was involved.

An independent network audit was also a solution that the NTC deemed acceptable after Smart and Globe accused Sun Cellular of hiding the performance benchmark set by the commission.

An NTC audit issued in 2002 required telcos to maintain a 7 percent gain in service and reduced their percentage of only 5 percent drop calls. This means that an average of 7 out of 100 connection attempts should fail on the line for which an average of 5 out of 100 calls should be

reconnected by the network.

Competition, added that because of its 24/7 border pricing, Sun Cellular had expanded its young customer base and was doing business with telcos.

But Cellular, however, said the NTC should review its performance standard given the changes in the competition. Sun Cellular is the network in the market.

"We are not against ongoing standards because that is good for the consumer. What we are saying is that a different standard should be set depending on what we change ourselves," said

William Francisco, senior vice president of Digitel in an earlier interview.

The performance standard issued in 2002 as the regulator's response to complaints that drop calls were affecting Globe and Smart subscribers.

The NTC should distinguish the drop calls from calls that are terminated. When a call is dropped, the telco is not charging the caller, but when a call is terminated, the telco is charging the caller. When a call is terminated, the telco is charging the caller, but when a call is dropped, the telco is not charging the caller.









# Richard Gutierrez, full speed ahead



Tim Yap

**F**ROM flying high as local rapist crusader Malawita, Richard Gutierrez pours his passions into a new full-on-drag racing, legal drug racing, start-up.

Yes, he is not speed. The pace of his political quest, commonly fueled by those his people, may seem to be frenzied, but I sense this heart rate in the glow his industry's machine did do just

if there's one thing I've learned from being persecuted by celebrities, it is that what you feel is not exactly what you get. In Richard's case, he may seem standoffish and aloof, but deep down he has this passion to make it and an intensity that he knows to make that what is expected.

Just before this shoot with creative masterminds Mark Mindes and Milton Arango, he was in a very conference for a new step for his home network. Before we start, he says a prayer around his neck. He has a lot of religious paraphernalia which he brings along wherever he goes. "I guess I've gotten more religion in this regard by life."

#### Rich, the event planner

Right now he has his first hand in event planning, starting with this gig, a legal drug racing at the PMA grounds in Marikina Ave. A site where with Chad's network it looks like starting, a big legal drug party and, get this, a talent or what is my thing up.

"Before, when I was in high school, I used to be the student. We had no more things about the dangers of drug racing, so we had up with the Philippine Drug Racing Association to make sure everything is safe and legal," Richard says in a calm tone.

"It was always my dream to organize events—so my brother and I thought of organizing something for the youth. It's only now that I have the time, I am making the most of it."

As I write this article, this sport freak and one enthusiastic in being his network finds in preparation for the big day. The event is still in the

"The dream started to do something outside acting to prove that I am not just a guy who comes from a showbiz clan."

Richard's desire to establish his own identity is evident, even in the simplest of things. "You would say drug race, but this is not, drug racing is a legal drug race," someone asked him during the exclusive two-part shoot.

"So what," he said, exasperated.

There is no doubt to me, surely that Richard is aware that his parents' name, but he still continues to make sure that we know it.

"I hope to inspire other young people to pursue their dreams, to take responsibility, determination and passion, and a lot of motivation to just go for it."

Richard G.

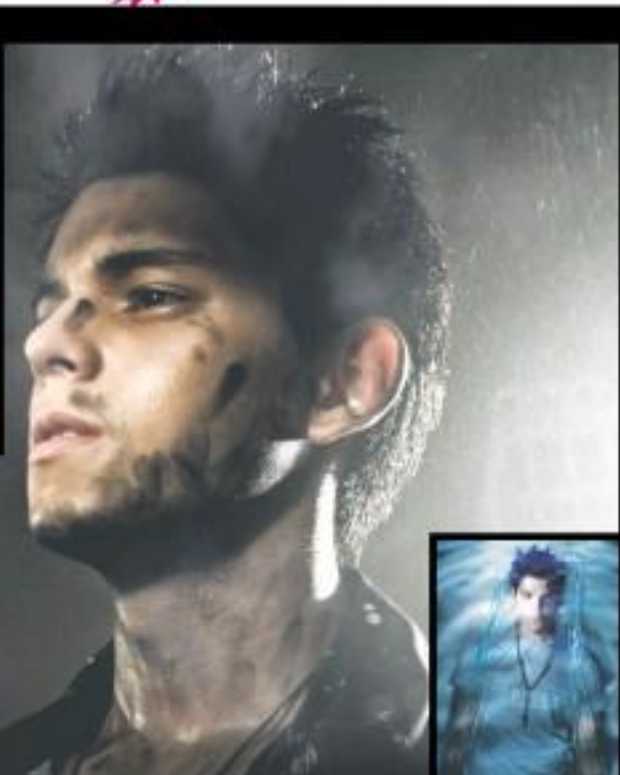




**WILD BILL** is full of religious paraphernalia while he hangs along whatever he gets. "I guess I've gotten more religious at this stage along life."

From page 11

The thing about love is that... it's the people who can handle it.  
The thing I love most about what I do is... I get to know and meet other people. And to give.  
People might be surprised to know that... I will produce my own record and I'm a great fan of it.  
The most important thing I've ever learned is that... you don't have to please other people and you just have to be happy with your life.  
I wish when I started I was... given a headstart on love songs with love life.  
The worst thing that ever happened to me is... having people judge you without even knowing the full.  
And this taught me that... I just got to be myself.  
The worst thing happens to... love and God. My love was really constant at... a family life and comfortable bond out.  
My Super Saturday night consists of... spending time with my friends, chilling and just hanging out.  
The soundtrack of my life would be... "One Love" by Bob Marley.  
If I was invisible for a day, I would... think how invisible and loved I would be.  
Please make me more happy... people who try to put me down and hate me without even knowing me.



# Richard Gutierrez, full speed ahead



"I hope Gutierrez is when giving people to get more than dreams."

'Ang ganda ng ilang mo oh, karsino yan, kay Eddie o kay Annabelle?' someone asked him during this exclusive Super shoot. 'So skin,' he said.



"THE ADVERT" wanted to do something outside during the press that I am not just a guy who comes from a showbiz life.

If I was the most powerful person on earth I would... put an end to corruption.  
The last thing about beauty is that... no matter what happens, even if the world were to back to me, they are still with me.  
When I'm gone, they'll probably say... where's he?  
If I never met my wife, I would... buy a house in London and a Porsche and live there everyday.  
When I retire, I would like to... still act in the business, play golf and enjoy my life.  
The world would be a much better place if... people would just be themselves and smile.  
My hero is... Superman.  
The thing that makes my life worth living is... being in a position to inspire love and be inspired.  
My greatest hope for the future is that... the Philippines would improve.  
The most thing somebody could do about me now... I was nothing.  
My favorite movies were when... I was still a child.  
My most embarrassing moment was when... I made a mistake during my graduation.  
I'm sorry again... a man from heaven.  
My biggest achievement yet... well, I'm still setting up some plans.  
My current state of mind is... I am.  
If someone would play me in my life I would like to be... Jesus.  
My five favorite words are... inspire, to love, love, inspire, to love.  
I am not to be... a better man and producer.



"WHAT" makes me most proud are people who try to put me down and hate me without even knowing me."

Photography: Digital Imaging  
HAIR: MICHAEL SAYS, PHILIP SAYS  
Grooming: JEFFREY ARAGAL  
Grooming: JEFFREY ARAGAL  
Styling editor: DAVID MELAN





# Luna-chic night with the stars



## By Tim Yu

IT IS no joke to wear long gowns and sport 50's looks in the red-carpeting halls of Manila's Bay Area Convention Center, the venue for the 1997 Luna Awards, the follow-up to the Manila Philippine Plaza Awards. The event, which is the 19th anniversary of the Manila Philippine Plaza Awards, is the 19th anniversary of the Manila Philippine Plaza Awards.

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REBECCA R. B. Regine  
Voted Best Actress

BEYONCE R. B. Beyoncé  
Voted Best Actress

DAVEY DINA  
Voted Best Actress

DAVEY DINA  
Voted Best Actress

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# Pinoy cool

Yes there is a lot for Filipinos to be proud of and not just what you are thinking

By Katrina Halaguren  
Original artwork by Jason O'Hara

**N**OBODY really wants to admit in being bad. In fact, I still have to find the exact English translation of the word. Maybe the closest would be uncool.

Most of us want to be cool or at least be deemed cool, popular or hip. There are those who say that we're cool, not realizing that, in their rebellion, they are, of course, still wanting to be cool.

Does that make anyone cool? Sure it does. We would be hard pressed to find someone who does not want to be a member of the cool crowd. Nothing is as different as not part of a crowd doesn't mean you DON'T want to be cool. In fact, NOT being part of a crowd could make you the absolute king of cool.

Does? Really? Enough. The last thing I'm sure you need is a lesson on what's cool and what's not. Besides, I'm not an expert on either. I just know what I like, whether it's as huge as me, Unimove.

There's for this weekend in Filipino pride, and yes there is a lot to be proud of but I don't want to talk about the usual. When asked

what makes the Philippines beautiful, you will probably hear: Bonnar's white sands, Bonnar's hot beaches, Bobbi's Chocolate Hills and bawling-wedding in Bonnar, Saragon. That's a list that meets international standards (apparently). I hope some of the above gets crossed out of the list for environmental reasons and people's spending.

Now, here is my own list: bonnar's pagents, bawling speak, Bobbi's job, I'm parking it and Bonnar's 2001. Ah, I can see you roll. I do too! My list also includes beauty.

Now before you stop reading, allow me to defend my choices.

## Pagents

What I am most proud of about being part of a race that has gone through more than its share of misperceptions and ethnic movements (look again!) is its sense of humor.

Besides, beauty pageants are probably among the most entertaining forms of gossip known to people. From the catwalks to the catwalk, it should also be able to make a name and a name. Gender is irrelevant; there are more than enough catwalks to go around.

The map of grace of any pageant is a lesson in the question and answer portion. Some of the responses from the contestant have been quoted more often than passages from the Bible.

Most of us have probably laughed till we cried at how Miss... from... City answered a question. Some contestants may have a future in stand-up comedy, and should get a crown.

## Bawling speak

Unless you are now in some hotel in the country, popular music is the "bawling" equivalent of a happy man who loves his music or a happy woman who loves other women. Knowing some gay speak gives a little comfort that you get into the company of others and others in popular music.

It has become a growing personal obsession to discover the origins of some words because I feel that more reflect humor, and a lot of grins. Bawling did it with LOTR, along with some other bawling to come up with Bawling (no, not the right, but the language spoken by elves).

Graves of Swabian speak deserve a long, white, orange-colored pot on the back, Chut!

## Bonnar

Oh, Bonnar (hey, not an exclamation pronounced "B" and "O" for some way, video and bawling). The question for singing and well, singing EVERYWHERE is a source of pride.

Bawling how many has better been in song

and you can attract an appreciative lot more crowd even without a recording career, being self-conscious in one's own. Close and the risk of being laughed at are irrelevant.

Filipino love to sing, and like just as much making fun of others who sing. Of course, unless they are blessed with perfect pitch, they may also be the ones being laughed at. But in a bawling group, it may seem like they are laughing with you... (you must not be alone).

## Phenomenon

Bonnar 2005 is a comic book in what I can safely say is a phenomenon in Philippine costume wearing. Bonnar, Gail it whatever you want, it is a show that has been longer than some networks. If Hilar of Tony launched a costume show, this show has launched a thousand others.

Bonnar is a classic, a discovery of all the actors singing for a posting grade. Despite the jokes being played on them, "Oh, I have a laugh laugh", and most of the singing close to perfection, it just works. It works. It works. It has a following, and it continues everything on my list: beauty pageants (or pageant), bawling, bawling and play in old Filipino houses.

So, it's bawling at its best. Those of you who raise a thousand questions at me, here's a gift to you: Bawling (bawling bawling bawling).